

SOCIETY IN STATE EXHIBIT

The South Milwaukee Historical Society is one of eight state wide historical societies which will participate in a cooperative exhibit at the State Historical Society at Madison. The exhibit is called "BEGINNINGS" and will explore the comparisons between the communities represented, when they were founded, the reason for the community (Agriculture/industry, ect.) , who were the planners, and how the physical location played a part in its development. The societies taking part are:

Iron County- will depict Montreal, Wis.'s beginnings as an iron mining center.
Hawk's Inn at Delafield- mill site and agricultural processing center.
Norway- settled by a steady flow of Norwegian settlers
Jackson- settled by a German church congregation which migrated from Prussia to escape persecution
Winneconne- owes its origin to its location at the narrows on the Wolf River between Lakes Butte des Morts and Poygan.
Brodhead- a railroad community
Greendale- represents a community that was planned as a WPA project in the 1930's

South Milwaukee was chosen because, although we know its origins began about 1835 as the settlement of Oak Creek, South Milwaukee as it is known today actually got its start as an industrial development in the 1890's. There was a deliberate move to "boom" the then sleepy little village of 517 persons.

Representatives from the various societies have met for two days of preparation at Chicago and Madison. Another planning session is slated for June and again in September. Most of the work on our section of the exhibit will be done here with guidance from a state representative. Funding for the project comes from the Wisconsin Humanities with a small contribution from each society since the finished part of each society's section will belong to them and can be displayed in the community. The opening date of the exhibit is set for early October and will be on view into Spring of 1983.

Actually the exhibit has a three-fold purpose. First is education. Hopes are that persons seeing the exhibit will think about their own communities beginning, the hows? and whys? of it. Second it is a cooperative exhibit at the state level and thirdly, it will teach each society involved how to make an effective exhibit which they can then apply to their own needs in the future.

Not only is this kind of an honor for the society but it is one for the community of South Milwaukee as well.

OUT OF THE PAST

Triplets were born on October 2, 1903 to Elizabeth (Lorig) and George H. Heidelberg of South Milwaukee. They were named George, Monterville and Caroline. One month later one of the babies and

South Milwaukee Historical Society

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 1982

OFFICERS

President	Lois Schreiter	762-5214
Vice President	Grace Broskowski	762-5474
Secretary	Anne Monson	762-1091
Treasurer	Laura Hook	762-0635

NEXT MEETING : Monday, November 1st 7:30 p.m. -Senior Center

Sorry we had to skip the August issue of the Newsletter this year, but we've been busy with the "Beginnings" exhibit at Madison and just didn't have the time. We'll try to get you caught up on all the news from the Society with this issue.

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As you can notice from the heading the society has new officers. They were elected at the May meeting. Grace is also serving as program chairman and has lined up some good programs for our meetings. If you attended our September meeting you had the pleasure of learning about Australia through a slide presentation by Mike Broskowski, Graces' nephew. He and his wife were teachers there. For the November meeting Grace has set up a program by the Telephone company, and for our Annual Dinner, to be held in March 1983, she has already lined up a great sounding program put on by a Revolutionary War group. More on that later.

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The Society realized a profit of about \$210 on our June rummage sale. Many thanks to all those who donated items and who helped out at the sale and the open house.

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Another major repair job is underway at the Historical Society Museum. As we have been bringing to your attention for the past year the condition of the heating plant and the plumbing have been deteriorating badly. The boiler was in bad shape last year and we had to put in almost \$200 in repairs. Well, it has finally come down to the point of installing a new one or else--- And the lateral piping, most of it lead and in bad condition, needed replacing long ago.

The board has accepted a bid of \$1625 for installation of a new boiler. Zoned heating, meaning two thermostats, one on the upper floor and one on the first floor, will cost an additional \$450, but the board feels it will pay in the long run. If any of the valves on the 15 or 16 radiators need replacing it will be an additional \$38 each. All of the lateral water pipes and the first

and second floor risers will be replaced at a cost of \$745. This includes both hot and cold water. Total cost of both jobs will be in excess of \$2800.00.

DoraLee Szewczuga appeared before the common council on October 11th with a request for the Society to be placed in the city budget for \$3000.00. Supporting the request were Gert Endthoff, Anne Monson and our member from far off Falls Church, Va., Janet Smith, who was visiting in the city at the time. We will not know how we fare until later in the year.

In the past you, our members, have been generous towards the societies campaign for funds for the exterior renovation of our building. We are asking once again for your help. Any and all donations will be greatly appreciated.

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Our first meeting in September was a Pot Luck Supper. About 45 persons attended the bountiful affair which was held at the new Senior Citizen center at the City Hall. (All of our meetings will be held there now.) All manner of wonderful salads, hot dishes, cakes and goodies were served and those attending can testify as to their goodness. Plans are for making this an annual event for our first meeting after summer. Much credit must go to Lynn Rankin for setting up this supper. The only sad part was that she became ill and was not able to attend. Next year--right, Lynn?

* * *

Does anyone have one of those old, round metal doorbells that used to set in the door. You turned the key to make the clanger go. The society would like one for its front door. If you have one to donate get in touch with any one of the officers.

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The South Milwaukee Police Department is looking for information about the early history of the department and its chiefs. Material being sought are photographs, documents and newspaper clippings. If you can help get in touch with Sgt. Erick Slamka at 762-1965.

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The Annual Convention of the Wisconsin Council for Local History will be held in Madison on November 12 & 13. The theme is "Exhibiting Your Community's Past" and will feature the "Beginnings" exhibit which your society has a part in. Representatives for several affiliated societies will join museum interpretation specialist Tom McKay in explaining how they became involved in the project, discussing the planning process for a cooperative exhibit, what they learned during the various stages in its

development and how what they learned can help their society in setting up exhibits in their own community. The "Beginnings" exhibit was officially opened on October 8th with a reception for several hundred persons at the State Society in Madison.

Several workshops will be held on the 13th, all dealing with exhibiting techniques. If you would like to attend, make a reservation with : Ms. Connie Meier, State Historical Society, 816 State St., Madison, Wis. 53706. The cost is \$2 for registration and \$6 for the luncheon. Make your check payable to the State Historical Society. The program begins at 8:15 a.m. , Saturday, Nov. 13th.

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A little more on the "Beginnings" exhibit. Each of the eight Wisconsin communities in the exhibit has told its story with pictures and artifacts, and although they are the same in some respects, they are all different. Each community drew on its heiritage, be it German, Norwegian, a mining town, a railroad town or in South Milwaukee's case, a planned industrial town. DoraLee worked along with Tom McKay in selecting pictures and artifacts that would tell OUR story. She and her husband went to Madison to set up the display. Because the society donated \$150 to the project we will be able to keep all of the materials used when the exhibit is over next February. These include copies of pictures loaned to us, frames, ect.

We would like to acknowledge and thank the following persons for their assistance in gathering information and for items lent.

Mrs. Margaret Cohen	Armenian artifacts & pictures
Mrs. Namzar Kaprelian	
John Veres	Badger Malleable casting
Elinor Ronkowski	picture & information
Bucyrus-Erie	
Dan Stupek	pictures & information
Joyce Tandetzke	pictures
Scoop editor, BE	
Helen Barsamian	help & encouragement on DoraLee's effort to bake paklava for the reception

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QUERIES : Information wanted on former residents Ben (Bruno) and Anna DANOWSKI. Contact Jim Danowski, 5401 E. Sweetwater Ave., Scottsdale, Arizona, 85254.

HANSEN (HANSON), John and Frances. In 1929-30 they lived at 2603 5th Ave. They had at least four children. Information

wanted on a daughter, Yvonne Hansen, born Jan. 12, 1929.
Frances Hansen's maiden name was BURGESS. Write to Stephanie
Peters, 1278 Valley Lane, Green Bay, Wis. 54303.

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A Christman Craft and Bake Sale will be held again this year.
Date chosen is Saturday, December 11th. It will be held at the
society museum starting at 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Last year the sale
was a huge success and with your help this one will be also.
If you do any type of craft or handwork your donation will be
appreciated. And almost all of us have baking specialities we
can share. We are asking you in advance to keep this project in
mind. Someone will be calling you later with details. We will
also discuss it at the November 1st meeting. Perhaps you can
lend a few hours to help out at the sale, ect. There are only a
few ways open for the society to raise funds and this is one of
them. With your support it can be successful.

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Don't forget the meeting--Monday, November 1st. 7:30 p.m. at
the So. Milwaukee Senior Center. See you there---



717 Milwaukee Ave.
So. Milw., Wis.
53172



*Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Schreiter
104 Brookdale Drive
South Milwaukee, Wis.*